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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/669,444 | 09/25/2003 | Masaru Shimura | 03500.017584 | 4280 |
| 5514 | 7590 | 06/28/2005 | | EXAMINER |
| | | | | BEATTY, ROBERT B |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | | 2852 |

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | B JL |
| | 10/669,444 | SHIMURA ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Robert Beatty | 2852 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9/25/2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

| | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

1. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

- a) The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.
- b) Fig.9 should be labeled as Prior Art.
- c) on page 11, line 8, " $\Phi 47$ " is not understood.
- d) in claim 7, the applicant states that the lowered amount of temperature relative to the printed sheets is made greater for the single-color mode than the plural-color mode which is not believed to be correct. Referring to Fig.3 for example, the lowered amount of temperature relative to the printed sheets seems to be less for the single-color mode than the plural-color mode. That is, the amount of lowering of temperature from 200 C to 185 C for the single color mode is over 75 sheets while the same amount of lowering for the plural color mode is over only 20 sheets. Therefore, the rate of change (temperature/sheets printed) is less for single-color than for plural color.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

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2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Fujimori et al., Takata, Ito, Kimura et al., Tokishige et al., Yamaji (JP), Menjiyou (JP), and Yamauchi (JP) all teach changing a fixing condition depending on mono or plural color images or changing a fixing condition depending on number of printed sheets.

Kato (JP) is of particular relevance and teaches an image forming apparatus operable in mono and plural color modes and to change the temperature of the fixing apparatus after a predetermined number of sheets have printed in a mono-color mode. However, it does not teach changing the temperature of the fixing apparatus in accordance with a predetermined printed number of sheets in the color image forming mode.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert Beatty whose telephone number is (571) 272-2130. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9 to 6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Arthur Grimley, can be reached on (571) 272-2136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this

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application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1782.



Robert Beatty
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2852

June 25, 2005